

Rev. pps.

K-143

Scotch Folly  
Shallcross Neck  
Mid 18th Century

One of the earliest houses on Shallcross Neck is Scotch Folly, a two and one half story, three bay brick house with matching 20th century wings. Thomas Hynson (d. 1748) bequeathed parts of Scotch Folly, Castle Carey, Simpson's Addition and other parcels on the Neck to four of his five sons in his will. William received that portion of land that became known as Woodland Hall. Andrew Hynson, the oldest son, inherited the other part of Scotch Folly on which the house stands.<sup>1</sup>

Andrew's house was a substantial brick structure with the facade and west gable laid in Flemish bond with glazed headers above a full basement with a chamfered watertable. There was a pent eave across the front and back of the building with a two brick belt/watershed course beneath the second story windows. The pent eave stopped about 2 1/2 feet from the ends and the belt course jogged down three courses, like the Buck-Bacchus Store in Chestertown and Labadie Mill Farm in Cecil County. A kitchen wing was attached to the east gable.

Scotch Folly's plan was composed of two rooms, hall-parlor, with hall having an enclosed stair in one of its corners, adjacent the fireplace. The chimneys at both ends of the house were built within the gables.

Andrew Hynson died in 1779 intestate and his wife Mary followed soon thereafter. George Wilson, his administrator and others had to post a @1000 bond for settling the estate. By 1822, the property was owned by a

distant relative, Isaac Freeman, who lived at Tibbalds at the end of the neck.<sup>2</sup>

When Martinet printed his map in 1860, the house and surrounding land was owned by Lewin Wethered, but it is not clear if he in fact lived there. R. Comly was recorded as the owner by 1877.<sup>3</sup>

In the late 19th century, the house was gutted and the plan was changed to conform with most of Kent's farmhouses, a central stairhall and two rooms. The pent eave was removed and the old kitchen wing was replaced with a two story frame structure which remained until the present owners acquired the land in the 1940's. At that time, the house was remodeled and the two wings were added, one at each gable end.

Scotch Folly is one of only five buildings in northern Kent county to have had a pent eave and one of only two with a jogged belt course.

1. Wills, Lib. 3, fol. 78.
2. 1822 Tax Assessment.
3. Lake, Griffing, Stevenson Atlas, 1877.

K-143

Circa 1742

Scotch Folly; Scott's Folly

Near Locust Grove

Private

The house at Scotch Folly (earlier known as Scott's Folly) is now a four-part building. The brick main section, three bays wide and two deep, now 2-1/2 storeys tall, is the oldest, appearing to date from the mid-eighteenth century. Its main facade faces south. The south-side and west-end brick was laid in Flemish bond with glazed gray headers. English bond was used elsewhere. There are indications that there was a pent eave in at least front and rear facades. The 1-1/2 storey, frame, east kitchen wing is a mid-twentieth-century replacement of a nineteenth-century two-storey frame wing. The west frame 1-1/2 storey wing is a mid-twentieth-century addition where there was none previously. An old deed suggests that Scotch Folly's brick section was present in 1742, referring to the brick house on the farm, though working with Scotch Folly deeds is difficult since the tract was divided into so many pieces that carried the name. At Scotch Folly today it is essentially the brick shell that endures as a document of mid-eighteenth-century building, though within is a comfortable and well-appointed home. A major late-nineteenth or early-twentieth century remodeling transformed the plan from hall-and-parlor to central-hall and re-ordered the second storey as well; the dormers also appear to be added. All windows and doors have been replaced, several times. In the west room of the first storey there is a notable mantel, though it was brought to Scotch Folly from southern Maryland. Scotch Folly is one of the few Kent County buildings to have been built with a pent eave. This is a phenomenon of the upper county area, evidently a spill-over from building practices north of the Sassafras River where it was more common. The house at Shallcross Farm had pent eaves, and so did Partners' Addition, or the R. Clayton Mitchell farmhouse (K-152). Evidently intended to be decorative as well as shed the water from the upper wall, pent eaves were removed when a smoother facade was wanted or they deteriorated, probably in the nineteenth century, for they themselves tended to leak and then rot.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Scotch Folly (preferred); Scott's Folly; Brick House Farm

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number East side Shallcross Neck Rd.  
.1 mile north of Locust Grove ☐ not for publication

city, town Locust Grove ☒ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Kent

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. & Mrs. S. Wickes Westcott, Jr.

street & number  telephone no.:

city, town Kennedyville state and zip code Maryland 21645

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Courthouse liber EHP 7

street & number Cross Street folio 190

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory - HABS Inventory

te September 18, 1968 ☒ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

## 7. Description

Survey No. K-143

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The house at Scotch Folly (earlier known as Scott's Folly) is now a four part building. The brick main section, three bays wide and two deep, now 2-1/2 storeys tall, is the oldest, appearing to date from the mid-eighteenth century. Its main facade faces south. The south-side and west-end brick was laid in Flemish bond with glazed gray headers. English bond was used elsewhere. There are indications that there was a pent eave in at least front and rear facades. The 1-1/2 storey, frame, east kitchen wing is a mid-twentieth-century replacement of a nineteenth-century two-storey frame wing. The west frame 1-1/2 storey wing is a mid-twentieth-century addition where there was none previously. The fourth section is an enclosed one-storey porch to the rear of the kitchen. The original plan appears to have been hall-and-parlor with center-bay entries on both north and south sides. However, in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, the plan was altered to create a central hall with stair and one room each side on the first storey. The second storey was also re-ordered. Doors and windows are replacements.

(Continued)

## 8. Significance

Survey No. K-143

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
X 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** Circa 1740-1750 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Shallcross Neck on the Sassafras River near Locust Grove was an early area of settlement in Kent County (though from 1674 to 1706 the area was part of Cecil County). On the neck today there are, to one extent or another, four survivals of old dwellings. Only the frame survives from the very early house at Marsh Point (K-207); an essentially new dwelling was built on it. The shell of a probably eighteenth-century house is within a much remodeled and added-to house at Castle Carey. The brick house at Shallcross Farm (K-142), known earlier as Tibbalds, despite removals and some alterations, is the best preserved. An old deed suggests that Scotch Folly's brick section was present in 1742, referring to the brick house on the farm, though working with Scotch Folly deeds is difficult since the tract was divided into so many pieces that carried the name. At Scotch Folly today it is essentially the brick shell that endures as a document of mid-eighteenth-century building, though within is a comfortable and well-appointed home. A major late-nineteenth or early-twentieth century remodeling transformed the plan from hall-and-parlor to central-hall and re-ordered the second storey as well; the dormers also appear to be added. All windows and doors have been replaced, several times. In the west room of the first storey there is a notable mantel, though it was brought to Scotch Folly from southern Maryland. Scotch Folly is one of the few Kent County buildings to have been built with a pent eave. This is a phenomenon of the upper county area, evidently a spill-over from building practices north of the Sassafras River where it was more common. The house at Shallcross Farm had pent eaves, and so did Partners' Addition, or the R. Clayton Mitchell farmhouse (K-152). Evidently intended to be decorative as well as shed the water from the upper wall, pent eaves were removed when they deteriorated, probably in the nineteenth century, for they themselves tended to leak and then rot.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. K-143

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Margaret Q. Fallaw, Survey Consultant

County Commissioners of Kent County

organization Historical Society of Kent County

date May 22, 1985

Court House

778-4600

street &amp; number Cross Street

telephone 778-3499

city or town

state

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

The brickwork of the main section at Scotch Folly is notable, though work is in progress to re-point much if not all of the south facade by raking out much of the old mortar and replacing it with modern, grey cement mortar with flat, flush joints and considerable overlapping of the bricks. The bricks are dark red except for the headers of the facade and random headers elsewhere, which are grey. Mortar joints are wide--about 5/8". The joints in the rear (north side) have been struck. There is considerable variation in brick size. They are not especially long but are thick. The house seems to have been whitewashed and/or painted at one time, and some areas show considerable repair. The south facade and west gable-end are laid in Flemish bond with glazed, grey headers. The east end, though heavily repaired and partially hidden by a wing, appears to have been laid in English bond. On both front and rear facades there is a two-course belt that is stepped up three courses about 28" from the end corners. The window sills are now set into the top course of the belt. Mortar now fills the old holes on north and south sides for pent eaves' supports. The second-floor floor joists should be right behind the mortar. The pent-eave holes are about 22" on center. Whether or not there was a pent eave on either of the ends could not be determined because of the present wings. At Shallcross Farm at least one end evidently had such an eave, and the other cannot be seen. The frame wings are covered with horizontal, lapped weatherboard.

There is an undivided cellar under the brick section of the house. The foundation is entirely of brick; no stone was seen. The foundation is laid in English bond. The water table is chamfered on the south facade (though some of the beveled pieces have been broken and replaced with rectangular pieces). The water table is plain on the rear. The cellar is now entered from the dining room (east room), a modern entry. A modern, post-supported summer beam has been added to support the joists, which are hewn. There is a very large base for the west chimney. Its outside width is 8-1/2 feet, and it is 4 feet deep. The opening is about 5'-4" wide and 6'-10" high at the apex above a concrete floor. The arch is round-headed. There is no evidence of an old flue here, though the arch has been parged and whitewashed. The other chimney base is similar, with similar dimensions. A furnace presently uses this flue. The frame sections rest on brick foundations over a crawl space.

At the center of each gable end of the brick section, within the wall, there is a brick chimney. These most likely have been rebuilt on one or more occasions, but perhaps with at least some of the original bricks. The west chimney has a one-course band and then a two-course band that is two courses high. This chimney is narrow but deep. It very likely was rebuilt partly to accommodate the frame wing's fireplace. At the east gable end the chimney appears to be built with newer brick. It is more square than the other chimney, which also appears to be the case in a circa 1940 photograph. The chimney probably was entirely rebuilt by that time.

Scotch Folly  
or Brick House Farm

K-143

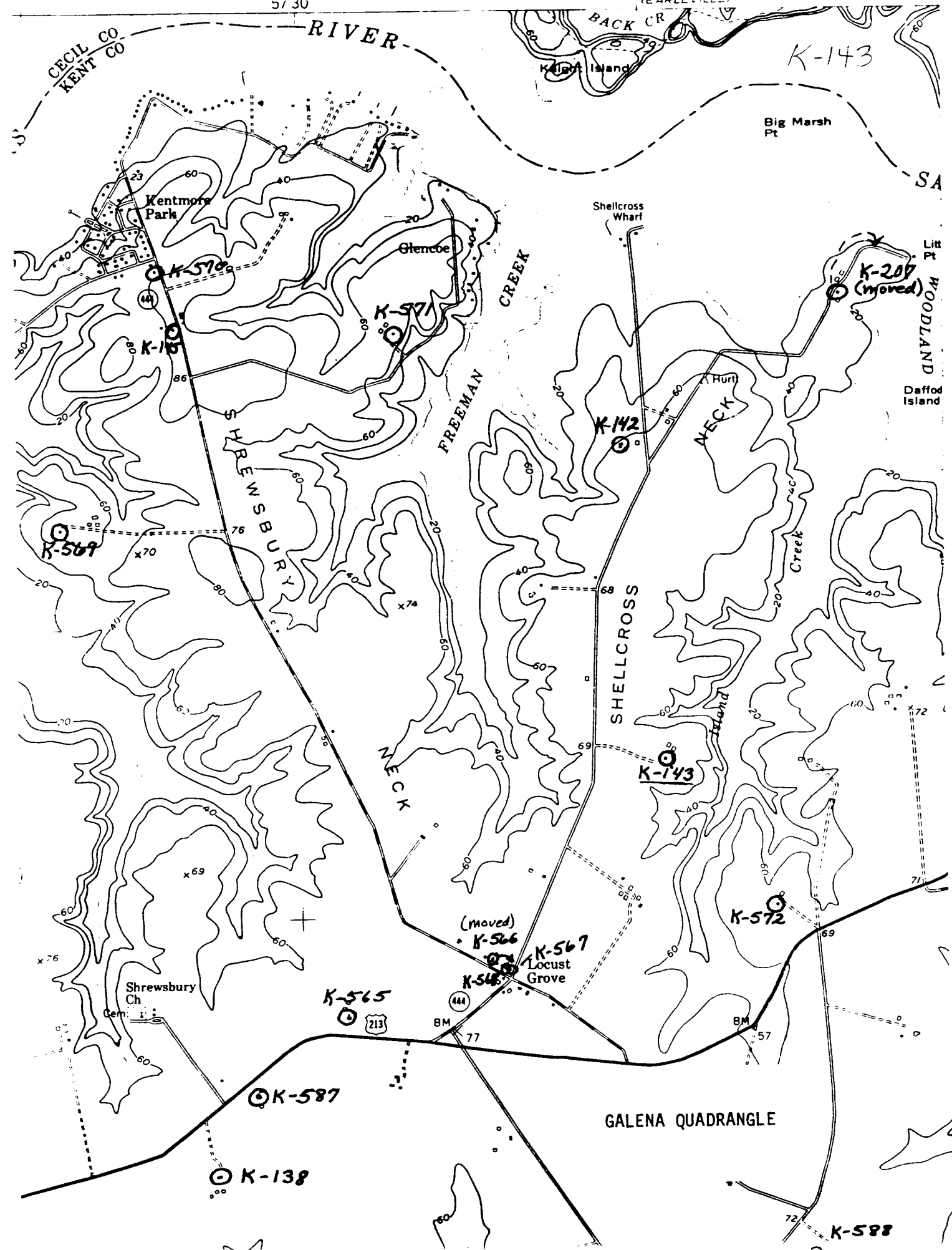
Scotch Folly is an early two-and-one-half story brick dwelling laid in Flenish bond with glazed headers on the sound<sup>th</sup> facade. It is three bays long and two bays deep with a steep A roof. There is a champhored water table which jogs above the basement windows and a two brick belt course below the second floor sills which jogs up about 18 inches from the end, similar to the Schrieber House, Chestertown, and Cloverfield, Queen Annes County. This is unique however because the joists extended through the wall and probably formed a pent eave which was removed in the nineteenth century. There are segmental arches above the windows which have 6/6 sashes; and there are two small windows on the gables, now bricked up. A one-and-one-half story frame wing has been attached to each gable of the main house. Located in the center of the building is the entrance with pedimented trim and transom.

8 The interior is divided into stair hall and two rooms. There is very little of the original trim remaining within.

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Kent</u> TOWN <u>Kennedyville</u> VICINITY <u>Loast Grove</u> STREET NO. <u>Shelbourns Neck - 1 mile N. E. of Loast Grove</u> ORIGINAL OWNER <u>Isaac Freeman (Marshy Point)</u> ORIGINAL USE <u>dwellin</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>S. Wickes Westcott</u> PRESENT USE <u>dwellin</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>Brick</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>2 1/2</u>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>K-143</u>	
2. NAME <u>Scotch Folly</u> <u>or Brick House Farm.</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>dated 1742 -</u> STYLE <u>colonial</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>NO</u>			
<p>Scotch Folly is an early 2 1/2 story brick dwelling built in Flemish bond with glazed headers on the south facade. It is 3 bays long and 2 bays deep with steep 'A' roof. There is a chamfered <del>wall</del> table which <sup>is</sup> above the basement windows and a 2 brick belt course <sup>below the 2nd floor</sup> which <sup>is</sup> about 18" from the end, similar to the Schreiber House, Chestertown and Clonsfield, Queen Anne's County. This is unique however because the joists <del>extended</del> <sup>extended</sup> through the wall and probably formed a pent eave which was removed in the 18th century. There are segmented arches above the windows and there are 2 small windows on the gables, now bricked-up. A 1 1/2 story <sup>frame</sup> wing has been attached to each gable of the main house. Located in the center of the building is the <sup>entrance</sup> <del>door</del> with <del>pedimented</del> <sup>pedimented</sup> <del>transom</del> <sup>transom</sup> and <del>with a pedimented arch above</del>.</p> <p>The interior is divided into stair hall + 2 rooms. There is very little of the original trim remaining within.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered <u>NO</u> Interior <u>fair</u> Exterior <u>good</u>			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Michael Bourne</u> DATE OF RECORD <u>Sept 13, 1962</u>	



Cal Ed Wright - Woodland Hall -





K-143

Scotch Folly

Shallcross Neck Road, near Locust Grove

M. Q. Fallaw - 1/4/86

View to north

C.1750

K 143  
# 24  
Tree.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
LIBRARY

K-143 A



K-143

Scotch Folly

Shallcross Neck Road, near Locust Grove

M. Q. Fallaw - 1/4/86

View to southeast

K143

#5

See w/turn

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
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K-143

scotch Folly

c.1750